



Australian
Industry and
Skills Committee

UEE ELECTRICITY METERS AND LV RESCUE

Case for Change

Name of allocated IRC(s): Electrotechnology
Name of the SSO: Australian Industry Standards

1. Administrative information

For a list of the products proposed to be reviewed as part of this project, please see **Attachment A**.

Name of IRC(s):	Electrotechnology
Name of SSO:	Australian Industry Standards

1.1 Name and code of Training Package(s) examined to determine change is required

UEE Electrotechnology Training Package

2. The Case for Change

For information on the job roles to be supported through the proposed qualifications updates, enrolments data, completion rates, and the number of RTOs delivering these qualifications please see **Attachment B**.

2.1 Rationale for change

This Case for change covers two important areas related to safety and compliance for Electricians:

- performing a rescue from live low voltage (LV) electrical apparatus
- installing, configuring and commissioning whole current electricity meters

These two work functions have interdependencies because the ability to perform LV rescue is essential for people working on electricity meters. Both units would be included in an updated version of the Skill Set *UEESS00179 - Electrical - Install and Set Up Interval Metering Skill Set*.

Development of the new LV Rescue unit is required to ensure Electricians have the skills and knowledge required to undertake a rescue from LV apparatus safely as required by the Essential Performance Capabilities (EPCs) to hold an Electrician's Licence.

The current unit *UEEEL0013 Install, set up and commission interval metering* is considerably out of date with respect to legislative, equipment and system requirements. After review and update, the unit will satisfy legislative requirements and support installation of advanced digital (smart) meters, and the replacement of older-style basic or accumulation meters (currently being phased out) with digital meters.

The unit *UEENEEG171A Install, set up and commission interval metering* became *UEEEL0013 Install, set up and commission interval metering* when the UEE11 Training Package was transitioned to UEE in 2020. This was a transition only project and did not allow for review of content. Now that UEE components are compliant with the 2012 Standards for Training Packages, an overdue review of this essential content is required to ensure it reflects contemporary industry practice.

2.2 Evidence for change

The new LV Rescue unit is required to meet one of the 55 Essential Performance Capabilities (EPCs) required to obtain an Electrician's Licence. Number 46 of these is a Critical EPC which covers fundamental principles of emergency procedures and the method of rescuing a person in contact with live electrical conductors or equipment. To meet this, EPC candidates must demonstrate evidence of: ensuring safety of the rescuer, establishing the source voltage level, and what should and should not be done during the rescue process.

The Australian Energy Market Commission released a Consultation Paper in December 2020 as part of a *Review of the Regulatory Framework for Metering Services*. It contends that "smart meters remain a key enabler of energy sector transformation". It describes smart meter penetration at currently around 20% (varies by jurisdiction and distributor), and that the percentage of smart meters in the National Energy Market (NEM) has been steadily increasing for the past five years. In October 2020, there were 1.04 million smart meters installed across the NEM. As this growth continues Electricians must have up-to-date skills and knowledge to support meter installation, configuration and commissioning.

2.3 Consideration of existing products

Currently, the unit *UETTDRRF06 Perform rescue from a live LV panel* is being used for Electricians to meet Licencing EPCs because there is no other option in the National Training System. However, the Application field of that unit includes the following which makes it inappropriate for electrical workers:

“It specifies the mandatory requirements of rescue from a live LV panel and how they apply in the context of transmission, distribution or rail work functions”

The Competency Field of the unit describes it as “Refresher Training”.

The unit *UETTDRRF06 Perform rescue from a live LV panel* meets a clear refresher training need for the Transmission, Distribution and Rail (TDR) Sector, but is a poor fit for Electrical Workers. When it was first introduced into the Electricians’ qualification there were significant objections from some stakeholders who claimed the application statement meant it simply cannot be used outside of the TDR sector (a continued point of contention), and the push for a targeted UEE replacement unit from those same stakeholders remains unchanged.

2.4 Approach to streamlining and rationalisation of the training products being reviewed

The units proposed for review/development in this project cover specific technical skills and knowledge required by electricians to work safely in compliance with legislated requirements. Unfortunately streamlining or rationalisation of this content is not possible given the nature of the work functions covered.

3. Stakeholder consultation

3.1 Stakeholder consultation undertaken in the development of Case for Change

For a full list of industry-specific stakeholders that actively participated in the stakeholder consultation process undertaken to develop the Case for Change, please see Attachment C.

The need for a new LV Rescue unit to meet the specific needs of electrical workers was identified during the broad consultation conducted for Release 2.0 of the UEE Electrotechnology Training Package.

The need for review of the metering unit was initially referred to the IRC by a National Meter Provider working group which identified the shortfalls of the exiting unit (UEEEL0013) in meeting contemporary practice and complying with current legislation.

Development of the Case for Change involved consultation with stakeholders via the following communication mechanisms:

- Stakeholder webinars
- Face to Face meetings (Virtual)
- AIS Website
- Stakeholder networks
- Teleconferences
- Emails

The work was outlined during a webinar which included representatives from all States/Territories and regional areas of those jurisdictions. Feedback on the proposed work was invited during the webinar.

The work was posted in the Engagement Hub of the AIS website and feedback invited.

Notification of the opportunity to provide feedback through the Electrotechnology webinar, or in writing through the Engagement Hub, was provided to over 1,100 Electrotechnology sector stakeholder subscribers.

3.2 Evidence of Industry Support

For a list of the issues raised by stakeholders during consultation and the IRC's response to these, please see Attachment D.

No objections to the development of the proposed units were raised during the consultation process. There is strong support of the need for both.

The work was outlined during a webinar conducted for the Electrotechnology industry on 26 March 2021 which had 80 participants. No questions about the work were posed in the Q & A section of the webinar. The proposed work was also detailed in the Engagement Hub of the AIS website for stakeholders to review and provide feedback, and no issues were raised in response.

3.3 Proposed stakeholder consultation strategy for project

Note: For a full list of industry-specific stakeholders who are planned to be contacted to participate in the stakeholder consultation process undertaken for this project, please see Attachment E.

Key Industry stakeholders will be identified in consultation with industry regulators, associations, and the Electrotechnology IRC.

A general invitation to participate on the project Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will be sent to all Electrotechnology subscribers. Targeted invitations will also be sent to known technical experts.

AIS, on behalf of the Electrotechnology IRC, will promote the opportunity to contribute through stakeholder webinars, the AIS website, EDM's, AIS newsletter and public notifications. Stakeholders will also be notified of key milestones throughout the life of the project, including requests for feedback on draft materials.

Stakeholder engagement and consultation will occur over the life of the project via a combination of the following methods:

- Direct engagement: Face to face consultations, Site visits, Phone, emails, video/teleconferencing meetings
- Industry forums and conferences
- Webinars
- Online feedback mechanisms
- STA direct engagement

Given the size of Australia and all stakeholders are not centrally located in major cities, a range of consultation strategies will be used so stakeholders in rural, regional and remote areas, and in smaller jurisdictions have multiple avenues to provide feedback.

This includes but is not limited to, online/video consultation, email correspondence and promotional activity via targeted communications including social media. A recently developed Engagement hub on the AIS website provides a one stop portal for information about how all stakeholders can participate and inform Training Package development work.

4. Licencing or regulatory linkages

The LV Rescue unit meets a critical Essential Performance Capability to obtain and Electrician's licence.

The work covered by the metering unit being reviewed can only be undertaken by Licenced Electricians.

State/Territory Electrical Regulators will be directly consulted throughout development to ensure unit content aligns to their requirements.

5. Project implementation

5.1 Prioritisation category

It is proposed that this review be progressed as a Fast-track project and will be published together with several other projects which industry needs fast-tracked.

The need to remove ambiguity about the application of the UET Training Package LV Rescue unit being used for Electricians requires that this work be expedited, to ensure certainty about meeting licencing requirements.

5.2 Project milestones

Key project milestones include:

- AISC project approval – June 2021
- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) formed – July 2021
- Draft 1 consultation – August – September 2021
- Stakeholder validation – September – October 2021
- Quality Assurance – October – November 2021
- Final consultation with states and territories – November - December 2021
- CfE submitted for approval – 31 December 2021

5.3 Delivery or implementation issues

None have been identified to date.

6. Implementing the Skills Minister's Priority reforms for Training Packages (2015 and October 2020)

The project submission will support industry's expectations for training delivery and provide a revised Companion Volume Implementation Guide (CVIG) to support delivery of the new products.

Both units are clearly targeted at those who hold, or are seeking, an Electrician's Licence. As such they are very vocationally focussed and Electrical regulation prohibits completion of them by other than the target cohort.

A skill set containing both units will be created for upskilling of already qualified Electricians.

This Case for Change was agreed to by the Electrotechnology IRC

Name of Chair

Signature of Chair

Date

Attachment A: Training Package components to change

Australian Industry Standards

Contact details: David Dixon, Chief Operating Officer

Date submitted: TBA

Note: Qualifications listed are not being reviewed. The units being developed will be added to them and as such they will be included in the Case for Endorsement because of the update to them.

Project number	Project Name	Qualification/ Unit / Skillset	Code	Title	Details of last review (endorsement date, nature of this update transition, review, establishment)	Change Required
2	Meters and Low Voltage (LV) Rescue	Qualification	UEE50320	Diploma of Electrical and Refrigeration and Air Conditioning	05/Oct/2020 - Transition	Update
2	Meters and Low Voltage (LV) Rescue	Qualification	UEE30820	Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician	05/Oct/2020 - Transition	Update
2	Meters and Low Voltage (LV) Rescue	Qualification	UEE42020	Certificate IV in Electrical - Photovoltaic systems	05/Oct/2020 - Transition	Update
2	Meters and Low Voltage (LV) Rescue	Skill Set	UEESS99993	Installing and Commissioning Whole Current Electricity Meters Skill Set	NA	New
2	Meters and Low Voltage (LV) Rescue	Unit	New Unit	Perform rescue from a live low voltage rescue apparatus	NA	New

Project number	Project Name	Qualification/ Unit / Skillset	Code	Title	Details of last review <i>(endorsement date, nature of this update transition, review, establishment)</i>	Change Required
2	Meters and Low Voltage (LV) Rescue	Unit	UEEEL0013	Install, set up and commission interval metering	05/Oct/2020 - Transition	Update

Attachment B: Job role, enrolment information, the number of RTOs currently delivering these qualifications

Please set out the job roles to be supported through the updated qualifications, enrolment data over the past three years in which data is available for each qualification, completion rates for each qualification, and the number of RTOs delivering these qualifications.

Job role	Qualification to be updated to support the job role	Enrolment data (for the past three years)	Completion rates (for the past three years)	Number of RTOs delivering (for the past three years)
342111 Airconditioning And Refrigeration Mechanic	UEE50320Y Diploma of Electrical and Refrigeration and Air Conditioning	0	0	0
341111 Electrician (General)	UEE30820Y Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician	101294	16394	8
341111 Electrician (General)	UEE42020Y Certificate IV in Electrical - Photovoltaic systems	913	137	0
	UEESS99993Y Installing and Commissioning Whole Current Electricity Meters Skill Set	NA	NA	NA
	UEECD9999Y Perform rescue from a live low voltage rescue apparatus	NA	NA	NA
	UEEEL0013Y Install, set up and commission interval metering	1455	1423	19

Attachment C: List of stakeholders that actively participated in the consultation process of the Case for Change

Active participation has included stakeholders from the following organisations across all states and territories within Australia:

- Industry Reference Committee (IRC) Representatives
- Employers (Non-IRC)
- Peak Industry Bodies
- Unions
- Regulators
- RTOs
- Other/Consultants

Attachment D: Issues Raised by Stakeholders during consultation on the development of the Case for Change

Stakeholder Type	Issues Raised	IRC's Response to Issues Raised
Industry Reference Committee (IRC) Representatives	Nil	NA
Peak Industry Bodies	Nil	NA
Employers (Non-IRC)	Nil	NA
Regulators	Nil	NA
Registered Training Organisations (RTOs)	Nil	NA
Training Boards/Other	Nil	NA
State and Territory Training Authorities (STAs)	Nil	NA
Unions	Nil	NA
<i>Please add other categories as appropriate</i>	Nil	NA

Attachment E: List of stakeholders to be contacted as part of the development of the Case for Endorsement

The Case for Endorsement development will involve contacting stakeholders from the following types of organisations across all states and territories within Australia:

- Industry Reference Committee (IRC) Representatives
- Employers (Non-IRC)
- Peak Industry Bodies
- Unions
- Regulators
- RTOs
- Other/Consultants